



AISL Weekly

Friday, March 6th, 2009
Volume 45, Issue 25

A Message From The The Superintendent

Just a reminder that Monday, March 9th has been declared a National Holiday recognized by the Federal Republic of Nigeria. School will be closed and the campus will be closed as well. School will resume at the normal time for Tuesday, March 10th.

This past week I had the opportunity to host a Round Table - Open Forum discussion with parents who shared concerns and asked questions related to the school. I found the conversation to be very informative and helpful. The dialogue helps keep me apprised of what issues parents/students want further information about and better communication on. Thanks to those who attended and the next Round Table - Open Forum will be held Thursday, March 19th in the High School Hub next to the Food Court!

Please note that AISL is hosting the Nigerian International Schools Conference this weekend. We offer teacher inservice training and workshop to over 400 local teachers to help improve the quality of education here in Nigeria. It is a herculean effort spearheaded by Mrs. Hazel Nwakwesi and Committee. It is also a way for AISL to actively take responsibility for a leadership role to help other s develop into stronger educational institutions.

Thomas Shearer



Construction of the new high school has officially begun. Follow the progress at www.aislagos.org Follow the link at the bottom of the page.



Week at a Glance

Saturday March 7th

- Saturday Baseball - See attached
- SeaCamp Baggage Drop-off - 9:30-11:00am
- Nigerian International Schools Conference

Sunday March 8th

- SeaCamp Departs for the USA - 5:30am
- Nigerian International Schools Conference

Monday March 9th

- CAMPUS CLOSED - Id El Malud Holiday

Tuesday March 10th

- MS/HS Track & Field begins

Wednesday March 11th

- MS/HS Girls' Volleyball begins

Thursday March 12th

- Nothing Scheduled

Friday March 13th

- Nothing Scheduled

Saturday March 14th

- Saturday Baseball

Superintendent - Thomas Shearer 776-4535
 Secondary Principal - Sharon Schauss 776-4532
 Elementary Principal - Justin Smith 776-4526
 Director of Admissions - John Stewart 776-4531

SeaCamp

We are all so excited, as the big day is almost here! Please remember that luggage drop off is on Saturday morning (9:30 - 12:00), while our departure is early Sunday morning. Please have students here at 5:30 a.m.! Mr. Rainbolt is putting together a travel blog for our trip. However, be advised that there is no internet connection at camp, so there won't be daily updates. Check it out at: <http://www.getjealous.com/seacamp2009>

Thanks, SeaCamp Committee

Elementary After School Activities

I have just started an e-mail notification system for parents wishing to be updated on ASA class cancellations. If you wish to be part of this, please send me a quick e-mail. I will be on the trip to SeaCamp from March 8 - 17. High School Athletic Director, Ms. Nisse Olsen will answer any questions during this time. Besides Monday's holiday, ASA will run on a regular schedule the rest of the week.

Thanks,
Travis Holmgren

INVITATION TO LEKKI BIRD CLUB INAUGURATION

Birds are globally acclaimed environmental indicator. Their presence or absence tells us the state of our environment. Paradoxically, very little is known about them in our society in spite of their enormous importance to our general well-being, rather they are daily threatened by man's unsustainable use of the environment.

To promote bird conservation and in fulfilment of Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF) strategic plan for the conservation of avian taxa, NCF is instituting a group of volunteer bird conservation enthusiasts: Lekki Bird Club (LBC). LBC is aimed at raising bird conservation interest in the minds of both young and old through periodic bird walks, organizing bird watching tours to biodiversity hotspots within and outside Lagos, collecting bird data and promoting bird conservation actions, especially for species that are globally or nationally threatened.

Members of LBC will enjoy: free access to Lekki Conservation Centre (LCC) nature reserve and NCF library, discount on use of LCC facilities and lots more.

To this end, I write to invite your organization to the inauguration of LEKKI BIRD CLUB. Please contact Melissa G Morse at mgmorse@aol.com

Visit www.aislagos.org for School Information

2009 Saturday Baseball Season



Games: Please note the schedule changes.

The Schedule of games for Saturday, March 7, 2009 will be as follows:

7-Mar-09	Field 1		Field 2		Field 3		Field 4	
	Home	Away	Home	Away	Home	Away	Home	Away
08:00 to 09:15	Cardinals	Tigers	Indians	White Sox	Royals		Twins	Athletics
09:30 to 10:45			Mets	Rockies			D'Backs	Cubs
11:00 to 12:15			Nationals	Reds			Phillies	Angels
12:30 to 13:45			Little League Practice Time				Dodgers	Rangers
14:00 to 15:15								

Notes:

1. The first games start at 8:00 AM. Please be on time.
2. Marlins (Bantam) and Red Sox (Minor) have the week off.
3. The Royals (T-Ball) will have a practice only on March 7, 2009.
4. **There are no regular Little League games this coming weekend due to school trips. However, if there are enough interested Little League players available, a pickup game/ practice will be held from 12:30 to 1:45 PM on Field 2. Please contact David Blackall (contact information below) if your son is interested in participating.**
5. See the Saturday Baseball Website for a complete schedule
<http://sites.google.com/site/aislsaturdaybaseball>

Umpire Assignments for Saturday, March 7, 2009:

7-Mar-09	9:30	10:45	Field 4	Mustang League	Anne Mathers
	11:00	12:15	Field 4	Mustang League	Anne Mathers
	12:30	13:45	Field 4	Pony League	Nisse Olsen

Rain: In case of rain, please see the Saturday Baseball Website (<http://sites.google.com/site/aislsaturdaybaseball>) after 7:15 am for information on cancellation of games or contact a league commissioner (see contacts below).

Water: Please ensure your child comes to games and practices with plenty of water to drink. We have noted that several kids are showing up without any.

Team Pictures: Team pictures will be taken on Saturday, March 21, 2009

Questions: Direct your questions to any of the following league commissioners:

David Blackall: Email: david.blackall@exxonmobil.com; Cell: 08029837885

Stuart McGeoch: Email: S.Mcgeoch@shell.com; Cell: 08070363206

Freddy Valbuena: Email: freddyavr@hotmail.com; Cell: 07035418750

Andrew Mathers: Email: andrew.j.mathers@exxonmobil.com; Cell: 08029675207

Spotlight on Secondary Education

Andreea Pitinche Geometry

This week students discovered formulas for finding the areas of two dimensional figures: triangles, rectangles, parallelograms, trapezoids, kites, regular polygons and circles. Beyond simply plugging numbers into formulas, students should be able to describe the process by which they arrived at the formulas. They should also be able to approximate the areas of irregular shaped figures by using the formulas of the areas mentioned above. And last, they must make the distinction between “a segment of a circle” and “a sector of a circle” and be able, with the help of visual thinking and problem solving skills, to calculate the areas of different sections of a circle.

Mr. Purdy Secondary Visual Art

High school art continues to be split into two sections: one working with Mr. Klancke on self-guided digital photography projects and the other with Mr. Purdy doing traditional visual art. Photography students have been working on a series of 8 mini-tasks that are themed and challenge the photographers to capture images that are artistic and technically accurate. Studio art students have been challenged with 2-point perspective drawing and a whole-class lost-and-found box redesign. Discussion on the elements and principles of design has been a consistent part of classroom culture.

In middle school art (6th-8th grades), young artists have been challenged by the design process and understanding preliminary designs, project construction, peer critique, project presentation, and project reflection. Discussion on the elements and principles of design has been a consistent part of classroom culture. Projects thus far have included preliminary sketches, logo designs for foreign travels, art room tool enlargements in watercolor, and “ordinary-to-extraordinary” bottle transformations. Projects to come include the self-portrait series, ceramic gargoyle head creation, and digital portfolio creation via a website (www.aislartist.com).

Remember to free your mind... make art.

Mr. Golub Geography - 7th grade

In geography we will be starting a new unit on human culture. With an ability to understand culture and how it affects societies and nations. Students will gain an insight into all areas of the world with a greater understanding of earths people, nations, and global regions of the world. We will examine the nature of global culture, its elements, and structure. As a class, we hope to gain an understanding of how human cultures develop and change and affect the way we behave and see the

world around us. We will also look at popular culture today. We will then finish up the unit with the making of god's eyes. Look for your student to bring home a god's eye, which is found in almost all cultures of the world.

Mr. Golub
IB Psychology

We will be starting chapter 4 "The Brain: Source of Mind and Self." This three-pound organ inside our skulls provides the bedrock for everything we do and think. Students will be examining the brain in hopes of gaining a better understanding of its function and its effect on how we think and behave. We will study the nervous system and the neurons that conduct the electromagnetic signals that make the brain work. We will also look at current mapping of the brain in hopes of gaining a better understanding of its structure and the effect on human behavior. The class will try to gain an understanding of how a wrinkled glob of tissue that looks like an oversized walnut can produce great works of art or a paper clip.

Mr. Golub
American History- 9th grade

We have just finished up World War I and will begin to examine the decades that precede and lead up to WWII. The class will study the roaring 20's, the great depression, the rise of dictatorships and fascism, and the causes and events, which ultimately lead to World War II. Students will try to understand the nature of modern warfare and why nations go to war. War and conflict have been with mankind since the beginning of time and hopefully the better we understand it, the more prepared we will be to prevent it.

Mr. Reese
8th grade History

The current topic in American History is the emergence of "sectionalism" as a counterpoint to the "nationalism" espoused by the likes of John Quincy Adams, Henry Clay and Andrew Jackson. Taken to its extreme, sectionalism culminates in the defining moment for the United States: the agony of the Civil War. The previous unit culminated in a fairly heavily-weighted visual project whose theme was, roughly, "The Journey of the Corps of Discovery" (ie. the travels and travails of Lewis & Clark). The finished product was due 27 February for who stayed in Lagos and 20 February for travelers. The test over the present unit is this Friday, 6 March. The kids have been in possession of a detailed study guide over this material for the past two weeks and it was upon this guide that I based Friday's test.

Mr. Reese
7th Grade Geography

In World Geography we continue the study of the "home continent", Africa, for one more week. All Mr. Reese's seventh graders have a large "country project" due on 6

March. Each student has chosen a different Sub-Saharan country to report on, visually as well as verbally. And...each Monday until the end of school attention will be given to one African country which has emerged in the world spotlight in recent days. Normally, this will be done through articles which appear in any number of international newspapers – but usually the *New York Times*. Our next area of focus, beginning 10 March, will be the Middle East (Inshallah).

Mr. Olson
6th Grade Math

Grade 6 Math has just completed a unit in Connected Math called “Prime Time”. It is an investigation of whole numbers in the form of multiples, factors, primes, and even and odd numbers. Various projects and scenarios were completed during this unit. A culmination project required students to do an in-depth report of their “favorite number”. One aspect of that report was a mystery number puzzle that has been made into a bulletin board outside our room (313). Come by and give one of the puzzles a try.

We are now in the beginning stages of piloting a new series from McDougal-Littell that has a new format, one that seems to be more user-friendly for students and parents alike. The beginning couple of weeks have been very positive. “I really like the examples, Mr. O!” is the retort heard most often throughout the day regarding the program.

There is homework nightly in 6th Grade Math and a quiz on the week’s work on Friday. Homework is posted on the Swift site everyday. Generally, there is no homework assigned on Friday or the weekends, unless we have a long-term project in the works. During a lengthy project, homework may sometimes be assigned over a weekend break.

Math-Academy (*a math help group*) meets Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 to 4:00 for those 6th Graders that need some extra help. In this academy, students can receive help with solidifying skills dealing with the multiplication and division processes, as well as other math skills needing refinement.

“My first year in Lagos is cruising right along. Thank you to all those that have assisted in making the time fly by”. –*Les Olson*–

NOTES FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Competitive sports/senate t-shirts are in!

Students involved in Competitive Soccer, Basketball, and Secondary Swimming and Student Senate can now pick up their personalized t-shirts from Ms. Olsen in her classroom. If you have placed an order for your t-shirt within the last 2 weeks (Elementary Swimming) these t-shirts have not arrived yet, so please be patient. We will notify you as soon as they are available for pick-up so you can show your team spirit. Please bring your N1200 in order to receive your t-shirts. Get yours today so you can wear it proudly for spirit dress next Friday!

MS/HS Girls' Volleyball and Co-Ed Track & Field will begin on Wednesday, March 11 and Tuesday, March 10 respectively. Please see Mr. Phipps for any questions regarding Girls' Volleyball and Mr. Alfred for any questions regarding Co-Ed Track & Field.

MS/HS BASKETBALL PLAYERS—PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE TURNED IN YOUR UNIFORM TO MS. OLSEN OR YOU WILL BE CHARGED \$50 TO REPLACE IT BEFORE YOU CAN RECEIVE YOUR NEXT REPORT CARD.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION—Secondary After School Activities began last week. Unfortunately we did not have enough students (minimum of 5) sign up for the following activities, which have now been canceled: MS/HS Karate, MS/HS Tae Kwon Do, MS/HS Dance, and MS/HS Tennis. We will try to offer these activities again next school year during Season 1. Please make sure you pay attention to the Daily Notices and the Weekly Newsletter to learn more information about the next Secondary After School Activities Season and registration information, as we will be registering for next year's activities for the ENTIRE year prior to the start of the year.



St. Patrick's Day / Lucky Grams
Tuesday, March 17, 2009

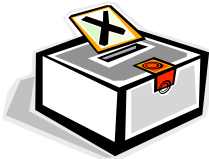


The Boys' and Girls' Volleyball Teams will be selling Lucky-Grams to Elementary and Secondary students to send to their friends and family in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. A Lucky-Gram will be sold for N50, with a kiss for N100, and with a small bag of Hersey's kisses for N500. Lucky-Grams will be sold during the week of March 9-13 and Monday, March 16 before school in the courtyard, during Secondary break and lunch, and after school on the Sportcourt. You can also see Ms. Olsen to purchase Lucky-Grams. Lucky-Grams will be distributed on Tuesday, March 17 during Period F. Please send a Lucky-Gram to your friends, your child(ren), and your teacher to support the volleyball teams' efforts to travel to Dakar, Senegal for the WAISAL Volleyball Tournament in May!

PTO NEWSLETTER UPDATE



March 28th 4.30pm – Bingo to be held in the AISL gym. **We need donations of prizes**, things suitable for children (games, toys etc) and adults. These kind donations can be put into a box in the office near Queen Lizzy.



April – PTO elections are coming up. Annette Schrama after two years as treasurer is stepping down and we desperately need someone to fill her very competent shoes. Any one interested please contact the PTO and we will put you in touch with Annette for more information.

Limor Rubin is also leaving as Communications officer after many years of helping in many positions on the board. We will miss Annette and Limor and thank them sincerely for the hard work and the tireless enthusiasm they brought to the team.

All positions are open for people to nominate for. Positions are President, Vice President – Elementary, Vice President – MS/HS, Treasurer, Secretary, Volunteer Coordinator and Communications Officer. Job descriptions will be put up on the board outside the office.



May 23rd – Garage Sale, hosted by the PTO in the gym. An opportunity to turn some of your clutter into cash in a summer clean out. 2000 naira per table. Contact Anne Mathers to book a table. No expired food items should be sold.



May 28th – Volunteer's Dance – for all the hard working volunteer parents who help maintain the AISL community, we are having a dinner dance on campus. More information after the April holidays as entertainment etc. is finalized.

Any enquiries for any further information should be directed to Anne Mathers at annebmathers@msn.com or through the office to the PTO box.

A Run Towards the Cure



CS-DON is a nonprofit organization founded to service the underprivileged women and children of Nigeria. Through funding from this organization, the disadvantaged can receive free healthcare at the Calabar Women and Children's Hospital, which specializes in the health issues that plague the most vulnerable in our society.



Passionately Pink for the Cure is a program via the U.S. based breast cancer foundation, Susan G. Komen, which fights breast cancer globally, through research and treatment. Having gained major success as a grassroots organization in the United States, Susan G. Komen has expanded their efforts internationally to Europe, Asia, Australia, South America, and most recently, Africa.

Please join us on Saturday, **March 21 at 7 am** as we

Run/Walk Towards the Cure.

Registration is still available.

Forms can be obtained off of the AISL website or in the AISL business office.

*All money should be paid to the AISL business office.